

To: Enck, Judith[Enck.Judith@epa.gov]
From: Michele Slowey
Sent: Fri 1/15/2016 4:58:34 PM
Subject: Fwd: Water and Air in HF

Dear Judith,

First, let me say how much I appreciate having you as our EPA administrator for Region 2. I also want to thank you for your very thorough and caring presentation at HFCS. I thought the meeting was excellent disseminating very good information, albeit disturbing.

I introduced myself after the meeting to emphasize the statement by another audience member who mentioned the unpleasant (plastic burning smell) in the village. If you don't mind I will mention again that while living at 8 McCaffrey Street I experienced very unpleasant odors that scared me because I had just gone through breast cancer treatment while at the same time my son experienced testicular cancer with a retro-peritoneal lymph-node dissection at Sloan-Kettering.

I just sent you my letter to David Borge and this is his reply below. I am confident in you and your team to take my concerns about the air quality in Hoosick Falls, which may be affected detrimentally by the McCaffrey St. Saint Gobain plant, seriously.

I also have serious concerns about soil contamination of our property that we still own at 8 McCaffrey Street, and would like this property to be included in the soil sampling project as things progress. I would like to be included in any invitations to future meetings held on the topics of health surveys, blood testing and soil sampling.

Thank you again for your valuable work!

Best regards,

Michele Slowey-Ogert

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Borge** <themayorhf@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Nov 15, 2015 at 10:08 AM

Subject: Re: Water and Air in HF

To: Michele Slowey

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Cc: Village Clerk <villageclerk@hoosick.org>

Hi Michele,

I appreciate your kind words. The Village Board has been actively engaged in seeking a remedy to the water issue for the last 12 months. At The November Village Board meeting, St. Gobain made public the results of their own sampling of water and ground and has offered to fund the

cost of an additional water filtration system which will remediate the current concern about our water. They are also offering to fund bottled water for those who choose to use it. This is a major step forward and it does not add to the financial burden of our residents.

The Village water supply continues to comply with all Federal, State and County regulations. The Departments of Health from both the State and County require on-going monitoring and this will continue. The construction process is overseen by both Departments of Health and they must approve of each step moving forward. We are not going to wait until after the winter to start and we anticipate a 8-12 month process to completion. Air quality for local industry is regulated and monitored by EPA, NYS and Rensselaer County. If there was a problem, those entities would intervene.

With regard to your specific questions about cancer rates in our community, I am not aware of any studies which have been completed documenting such. As far as I know, it is a matter of opinion and that will vary according to experience. I have heard that Rensselaer County has a high cancer rate compared to other counties in NYS, but nothing specific to Hoosick Falls.

The Village Board has been pro-active since the existence of a non-regulated contaminant was verified and we shall continue to do so. It can be a bumpy road, but worth the effort.

I am very pleased that you and your family are on the road to good health.

Be well.
Dave

On Fri, Nov 13, 2015 at 10:46 AM, Michele Slowey <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**> wrote:

Dear David,

First let me say how wonderful it is to have you as the mayor of Hoosick Falls, the village is so fortunate to have someone who I know to be a very caring and talented!

Marshall and I sold our house on Wilder Ave. several years ago and I was dismayed to learn that the house has been left to deteriorate as it has and the affect it has on the neighborhood, but this is not the reason I write today. After leaving Wilder Ave. Marshall and I purchased and completely renovated the house located at 8 McCaffrey St. Ahhh... now you may see where I am going. We are currently leasing the house having moved to Eagle Bridge five years ago where we have a little land and a small menagerie; two horses, four turkeys, and a number of chickens. Since I have been living in Eagle Bridge I regret that I have not been paying close attention to events in Hoosick Falls.

While living on McCaffrey St. I noticed strong odors emanating from St. Cobain and often closed my windows to keep out what I believed to be toxic chemicals. Often while driving through the village I notice the same odor. I did some research and found a document listing 33,931 tons of chemicals being released into the atmosphere which include Toluene, Xylene, Ethelbenzene being released which were apparently within "acceptable" limits. I do not have that document but I did find this information which states the same information without the detail:

<http://www.yourmapper.com/details/114/12090FLRGL1LIBE/saintgobain-performance-plast-ics.htm?n=>

I did not know that there was a problem with the water until notification was given in water bills. I have to wonder what the effects of the contaminated water and air has had on the residents of Hoosick Falls. I was diagnosed with early stage breast cancer five years ago and at the same time my son Ryan was diagnosed with an aggressive form of testicular cancer. Thankfully we are both doing well but not without literal and emotional scars. I know of another young man (20s) who suffered multiple surgeries and other treatments to battle thyroid cancer. I would like to know how many other village residents have suffered with cancer; is the cancer rate above average?

I am glad to hear that St. Gobain is installing water treatment and I do hope it will remove the chemicals threatening residents. Will the village be monitoring the water before the installation, after installation and in the future? Additionally, the air quality issue needs the same attention. Has this topic been raised and addressed?

I appreciate that this issue is currently consuming a great share of your time and I am pleased and confident that you will ensure the safety of residents and improve the quality of life there. Thank you very much for allowing me to take some of your time.

I hope your family is doing very well and please say hello to Kathy for me.

Michele Slowey-Ogert